made in Government Hospitals and expenditure on medicines etc. are incurred from the total budget allocation of the respective hospitals.

(c) to (e) No incidence of mis-appropriation of medicines and other consumables particularly expensive life saving drugs in the Central Government Hospitals, has come to the notice.

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has also informed that all medicines and consumables are issued to user areas against proper indent duly stamped as "AIIMS Supply. Not for Sale" and all precautions are observed at the level of Hospital Stores to prevent any pilferage.

Legislation to ban smoking

1935. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have framed laws for imposing ban on smoking with aggressive IEC campaign in India;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to impose high level of 'cigarette tax' for funding anti-smoking campaign, research and health care; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKALAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The Government of India enacted The Cigarettes and other Tobacco products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003' which, *inter alia,* contains provision which bans smoking in public places. Various steps are taken through electronic, print and other media to increase awareness among members of the civil society about the ill effects of tobacco use and urgent need to quit the habit.

(c) and (d) The Government has a proposal which envisages increase in the rate of duty on cigarettes by about 10 per cent, during the year 2005-06 to finance the National Rural Health Mission.